



WEST MILFORD TOWNSHIP PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Office of English and Language Arts

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Dear Incoming Seventh Grade Students and Families (all courses):

Welcome to middle school! The Macopin Middle School Language Arts teachers and I are eager to present the Summer Reading Lists to the seventh grade students for the 2019-2020 school year.

In an effort to continue to provide you with practical information regarding your child's current reading level, please be reminded that during September and October, your child's teacher facilitated a Reading Benchmark Assessment to assess your child's Fountas and Pinnell reading level. This assessment measures a child's accuracy, comprehension, fluency, and rate while reading. This assessment helped inform teachers' instruction in addition to allowing teachers to document student progress across the school year. Teachers also used this information to group children into Guided Reading groups, and it was pertinent as teachers created lessons to help children become better readers. Teachers facilitated this benchmark assessment again in June.

As you begin to enjoy your summer, please continue to make reading an important part of your family's activities. While reading strategies will be emphasized by your child's teacher throughout the school year, middle school children need to continue to read during the summer not only for enjoyment but also to sustain and strengthen skills they have already developed.

Each seventh grade student will be asked to read one book of his or her choice. We have provided a suggested list of titles. However, students are obviously encouraged to read beyond these requirements and can make other level-appropriate choices of books. Please be mindful of helping your child choose a book that is commensurate with his or her reading ability. Also, please consult teachers, local librarians, and book websites as you aid your child in choosing the book they will read to gain information about reading levels and other information about various titles.

In order to complete the Summer Reading requirement, students should complete one task on the grid included on the last page of this letter. This assignment will be due on **Friday, September 13, 2019** and will count as a "quiz" grade for the first marking period. No assignments will be accepted after this date. We are asking parents to sign the assignment sheet. Your signature serves as an indication of your approval of the selected title and indicates that you are aware that your child has completed the summer reading requirement.

For your convenience, the Summer Reading Lists and graphic organizer are posted on the West Milford Schools' website and they have been sent to the West Milford Public Library. All of these titles are also available for purchase, either new or used, from amazon.com or barnesandnoble.com. If your child owns a Nook, Kindle, or iPad, please consider downloading any of these titles to his or her device. Some of these titles may also be available as digital downloads from the West Milford Public Library. You can search their digital database at www.wmtl.org and click on "ebooks."

Additionally, the West Milford Library has an “app” that can be downloaded to a Smart phone or iPad so you can quickly search the library’s catalog.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Sharon West at 973-697-1701 x7057 or via e-mail at sharon.west@wmtps.org.

Have a wonderful, word-filled summer!

Sharon A. West, MA, M.Ed.
K-12 Supervisor of English-Language Arts

Student’s name: _____

Suggested Independent Text Level(s): _____

7th Grade Summer Reading

Report to the Principal's Office by Jerry Spinelli **U**
Absolutely Normal Chaos by Sharon Creech **V**
The Moves Make the Man by Bruce Brooks **Z**
The Samurai's Tale by Erik Haugaard
What Would Joey Do? By Jack Gantos **T**
Locomotion by Jacqueline Woodson **V**
Dogsong by Gary Paulsen **V**
Well Witched by Frances Hardinge
A Corner of the Universe by Ann M. Martin **Y**
Drums, Girls, and Dangerous Pies by Jordan Sonnenblick **V**
The Misfits by James Howe **X**
Divergent by Veronica Roth **Z**
Smiles to Go by Jerry Spinelli
The Compound by S.A. Bodeen
Julie of the Wolves by Jean Craighead George **U**
The Outsiders by S.E. Hinton **Z**
Rumble Fish by S. E. Hinton
The Silent Boy by Lois Lowry **U**
Eragon by Christopher Paolini **V**
Clover by Dori Sanders
The Girlfriend by R.L. Stine
Storm Thief by Chris Wooding **X**
Young Samurai: The Way of the Warrior by Chris Bradford **O**

Air Raid-Pearl Harbor (NF) by Theodore Taylor
Code Talker: A Novel About the Navajo Marines of World War II (NF) by Joseph Bruchac
An American Plague: The True and Terrifying Story of the Yellow Fever Epidemic of 1793 (NF)
by Jim Murphy
Three Cups of Tea: One Man's Mission to Promote Peace... One School at a Time (NF) by Greg
Mortenson
The Diary of Latoya Hunter: My First Year in Junior High by Latoya Hunter (NF)
Red Scarf Girl (NF) Jiji Jang **X**

Additional Titles:

Scrappers Series by Dean Hughes:

Play Ball

Homerun Heroes

Grand Slam

Team Player

Shortstop From Tokyo by Matt Christopher **M**

The Hit-Away Kid by Matt Christopher **M**

The Home Run Kid Races On by Matt Christopher

Hot Shot by Matt Christopher by Matt Christopher

Soccer Hero by Matt Christopher

Eggs by Jerry Spinelli

Blue Ribbon Blues by Jerry Spinelli **M**

Maniac Magee by Jerry Spinelli **W**

Milkweed by Jerry Spinelli **Y**

The Chalk Box Kid by Clyde Robert Bulla **N**

Tornado by Betsy Byars **O**

Shoeshine Girl by Betsy Byars

Freckle Juice by Judy Blume **M**

Otherwise Known As Shiela the Great by Judy Blume **R**

Double Fudge by Judy Blume **R**

It's Not the End of the World by Judy Blume **T**

The Castle In The Attic by Elizabeth Winthrop **R**

Mitch and Amy by Beverly Cleary **O**

Otis Spofford by Beverly Cleary **O**

Henry Huggins by Beverly Cleary

Beezus and Ramona by Beverly Cleary **O**

Two Dog Biscuits by Beverly Cleary **L**

The Dollhouse Murders by Betty Ren Wright **S**

The Homework Machine- by Dan Gutman **Q**

The Million Dollar Putt by Dan Gutman **S**

I Am the Ice Worm by MaryAnn Easley

No Talking by Andrew Clements

Kit's Wilderness by David Almond

The Wednesday Wars by Gary Schmidt

The Winter Room by Gary Paulsen **U**

The Pepins and Their Problems by Polly Horvath **U**

Grade 7 Summer Reading: Choose Your Own Activity!

After reading a book of your choosing, **pick one task from the nine below** and complete it as outlined.

Read through all of the options, and then choose the one that best suits your learning style.

Have fun with it!

<p>Diary or journal entry by a character from your book:</p> <p>If a character you love kept a journal, what would they write? What would their "voice" sound like? About which events in the story would they journal?</p> <p>Use a journal or diary format to write 2-3 entries from that character's point of view. Go beyond the obvious. For example, she might have been sad when her parents divorced, but how would she write about that in her journal? What thoughts would be racing through her mind? To whom does she turn for support? What emotion is in her voice?</p>	<p>Write letters between characters:</p> <p>If two characters from your book were to write letters (or email), what would they say? How would these two characters "talk" to each other? How would their relationship be reflected in their writing?</p> <p>Using a friendly letter format, write 1-2 letters between characters. The letters should reflect an interaction between the two, including answers to questions they might ask of one another.</p>	<p>Discover the book's relevance for you:</p> <p>Write a personal essay reflecting your own opinions. Do not limit this to a "I liked this book because..." type of review. Think about what--aside from liking or not liking it--you got out of reading this novel. For example, did it change the way you see the world? Inspire you in some way? Perhaps your book made you realize something that you <i>don't</i> want to do in the future?</p>
<p>Create a film poster for your book:</p> <p>Imagine that your book has been made into a movie. Create a poster that shows something significant about the plot, characters, setting, and/or theme of the story, while attracting a big audience.</p> <p>On the back of your poster, include a fictional review from a critic. This review will demonstrate that you understood the key elements of your book.</p>	<p>Design a CD cover and create a playlist for your book:</p> <p>Design an eye-catching CD cover design that relates to your book, and inside the CD cover, include at least 8 (existing) songs that connect with aspects of the novel, along with the reasons you chose each song (i.e. how they related to the story's characters, plot points, theme, or tone).</p>	<p>Get crafty with cartography (AKA, Mapmaking):</p> <p>Look back closely at the places that were <u>important</u> in your book, and draw a map that illustrates their location in relationship to one another. Include a key/legend to connect characters to the place where each belongs. On the back, describe each and why you included it in your map. Explain the meaning behind each location and how it relates to the plot.</p>
<p>Build a Facebook page or Twitter feed for a character:</p> <p>If your character used social media, what would they post or Tweet? Create a profile with the types of things that your chosen character would be into. You can draw or create in a digital document.</p> <p>The social media "feed" must include a full profile (name, hometown, likes, relationship status, etc.), with at least 5 pictures posted with captions related to the book, 5 status updates which would reflect events from the plot, and perhaps a fictional friend list (on separate page). These should be friends that are in the text, or people who you feel relate to your character in a realistic way.</p>	<p>Make a movie clip about your book:</p> <p>If you have access to movie-making software (e.g., iMovie, Photo Story, etc.) on your computer, direct your masterpiece.</p> <p>If you have Windows, try Movie Maker or download (free) Microsoft's Photo Story. It's free and simple to use and has great features (photo effects, transitions, music) that you can use to create a cool product. Imovie is also an easy way to make a movie with only using your phone.</p> <p>Upload to your Google Drive.</p>	<p>Book sleeve and book talk:</p> <p>Book Sleeve: Your book is just coming out on Amazon, and it needs a eye-catching cover to attract readers. The cover should be a visual representation that shows something significant about the plot, tone, and/or theme of the story. The back cover should include a short summary the book (NO SPOILERS)--you want to leave the reader wanting more!</p> <p>Book Talk: Prepare a 1-3 minute presentation on the book you've read. The purpose of a book talk is to convince the listener to read the book you are recommending. It will cover <i>some</i> elements of the novel, but should focus on the plot, themes and conflicts. (NO SPOILERS)! Present it live in class, or upload to your Google Drive.</p>